



METROPOLITAN
WATERWORKS &
SEWERAGE
SYSTEM
REGULATORY
OFFICE

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT 2022

The Philippine Plan for Gender and Development (1995-2025) is a National Plan that aims to address, provide, and pursue full equality and development for men and women. Approved and adopted by former President Fidel V. Ramos as Executive No. 273 on 08 September 1995, it is the successor of the Philippine Development Plan for Women, 1989-1992 adopted by Executive No. 348 on 17 February 1989.

Consistent to the PCW's commitment to promote women empowerment and gender equality, the Republic Act No. 9710, otherwise known as the Magna Carta of Women was approved on 14 August 2009 which mandates non-discriminatory and pro-gender equality and equity measures to enable women's participation in the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of policies and plans for national, regional, and local development.

The MWSS RO is committed to achieve its vision to become a world class and independent Regulatory Office that equitably protects the interests of the consuming public and other stakeholders to continuous, sustainable, and accessible supply of potable and affordable water and environmentally sound sewerage system. Thus, the MWSS RO has been actively promoting gender equality and women empowerment by integrating GAD perspective in all its programs, projects, and activities through provisions of policies and enabling mechanisms that institutionalize gender-mainstreaming efforts to ensure equal opportunities and participation for both women and men.

In line with this, the MWSS RO has implemented, supported, and attended various activities in 2022 supporting the gender mainstreaming and gender development in the agency, as it is committed to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment in the country.

On 05 April 2022, the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) endorsed the 2022 Annual GAD Plan and Budget (GPB) of the MWSS RO amounting to PhP33,547,222.52 or 13.15% of the agency's total budget appropriation for the year.

Below are the significant accomplishments in the implementation of GAD-related activities:

The **Reconstitution of the GAD Focal Point System** is considered as one of the accomplishments of the MWSS RO, this strengthens the involvement of the MWSS RO talents in mainstreaming GAD. Their functions are to lead the agency in mainstreaming GAD, ensures the promotion of gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE), and keeping gender and water policies efficient and relevant.



Reconstitution of Committee on Decorum and Investigation (CODI) and Creation of the Men Opposed to VAW Everywhere (MOVE) MWSS RO chapter. The CODI serves as an independent internal mechanism to address and investigate complaints of sexual harassment, while MOVE is an organization of men who committed themselves to be actively involved in the elimination of VAW.

Capacity Building

1. Gender Sensitivity Training

1st batch - 3-4 March 2022

2nd batch - 2-3 December 2022

2. Deepening Session on Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines
3. Assessment Using the Enhanced Gender Mainstreaming Evaluation Framework
4. GAD Planning and Budgeting
5. GAD Agenda for 2023-2028
6. Sex Disaggregated Data Training
7. GAD Planning Session: GFPS Assessment using the GFPS Functionality Tool

National Women's Month 2022

The 2022 National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC) observation traces its roots back to different movements in the 1900s, particularly in the United States, where women garment workers fought for fair work hours, better pay, and voting rights.

This year NWMC endeavors to highlight the gains achieved for women and girls, assess actions towards gender equality and look forward to steps that must be taken to ensure progress in empowering women. With the country still reeling from the COVID-19 pandemic, studies and data show that the health crisis stalled movements towards gender equality, worsening inequalities, further exposing gender gaps, and exacerbating vulnerabilities in social and political, and economic aspects.

The MWSS RO supported, attended, and conducted various activities that promotes women empowerment and gender equality. To cap the six-year recurring theme, the 2022 NWMC will focus on the sub-theme: "*Agenda ng Kababaihan, Tungo sa Kaunlaran*". It will be a celebration of women exercising their choices, taking chances to make their voices heard, and benefitting from and trailblazing changes. It is a celebration of Filipino women's power to take the narrative, raise priority issues that matter to them, and call for concrete actions.

Pride Month Celebration 2022

Pride Month is important because it marks the start of huge change within the LGBTQ+ community, as well as the wider societal implications. Although attitudes and injustice still remain, the LGBTQ+ community has come a long way since the Stonewall riots of

1969 and by continuing in this long-standing tradition, they continue to raise awareness, improve the attitudes of society, and encourage inclusiveness. For the very first time, the MWSS RO joined the nation in celebrating the Pride Month with various activities conducted which participated by Forty-one (41) women and Fifty (50) men MWSS RO talents,

The whole Pride Month celebration aims to:

1. Raise awareness among MWSS RO employees and other stakeholders about various concepts and concerns related to Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) and the rights of the persons of diverse SOGIE;
2. Shed light on the LGBTQ+ issues in the Philippines;
3. Increase knowledge of MWSS RO employees and other stakeholders on the SOGIE bill, its status and implications, and other SOGIE-related policies; and
4. Provide a discussion on the importance of diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

This is a remarkable celebration for the MWSS RO, being part of the Pride Month celebration was a great venue for a meaningful conversation and creating a safe space for the LGBTQ+ community, this means that the MWSS RO is gearing towards gender inclusivity and achieving gender equality.

Family Thanksgiving 2022

In observance of the Family Thanksgiving Day pursuant to Proclamation No. 847 dated 12 August 1996 and the Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR) of the Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710), the MWSS RO through its GAD Committee conducted the Annual Family Thanksgiving Day on 24 September 2022.

This is a celebration of the importance of strengthening and promoting unity, solidarity, and stability of the Filipino family as the basic unit of society and for whose well-being, all national development efforts are directed, the MWSS RO Family Thanksgiving Day also seeks to raise awareness on gender issues within the family such as the promotion of gender equality and sensitivity in order to prevent gender-based disadvantages and limitations which deny or restrict women's access to enjoyment of opportunities, benefits, or privileges.

18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women (VAW) 2022

Violence Against Women (VAW) continues to be one of the country's pervasive social problems and grave manifestations of gender inequality. The 2008, 2013, and 2017 National Demographic Health Survey, released by the Philippine Statistics Authority, showed that 1 in 4 Filipino women aged 15-49 had experienced physical, emotional, or sexual violence from their husband or partner.

The MWSS RO has implemented various activities in observance of the 18-Day Campaign to End VAW which majority of its employees attended and participated in the conduct of

both in-house and external activities. The year 2022 marks the start of our new six-year (2022-2027) recurring theme for the campaign: "UNiTEd for a VAW-free Philippines". It aims to highlight the powerful impact of harnessing and consolidating individual efforts towards the goal of having a VAW-free Philippines. This chosen theme also supports the United Nations' UNiTE by 2030 to End VAW Campaign (UNiTE).

As a Regulatory Office that continuously pushing for a VAW-free community, the MWSS RO engaged its employees to various activities which aims to gain insights as to where the country stands in terms of understanding and acting on VAW. The major activities will endeavor to gauge the awareness of citizens on VAW and its forms and manifestations as well as underscore the gains attained in the journey towards a VAW-free community.

Year-End Assessment 2022

The MWSS RO conducted the Year End Assessment led by the GAD Committee in order to strengthen the working relationship among 51 men and 40 women of the MWSS RO. It also aim to attain a high-level of teamwork and productivity, assess the GAD programs, activities, and projects conducted throughout the year, and to recognize the efforts of the MWSS RO employees in the attainment of committed targets in 2022 Performance Scorecard and in sustaining the MWSS RO's ISO Certification under 9001:2015 Standards.

All of these are the testament of MWSS RO's unwavering support and continued commitment to gender and development mainstreaming of activities to achieve gender equality and women empowerment.

GAD Facilities

In 2022, the MWSS RO built GAD facilities such as (1) GAD Office with library; (2) All Gender Restroom; and (3) Lactation Room, which was launched last March 1, 2023. These facilities addressed the gender needs of the MWSS RO talents in terms of access to GAD learning materials, closing the gender gaps and embracing inclusivity within the agency, and to provide a safe, welcoming place for nursing mothers to pump milk or breastfeed.

Information, Education, and Communication (IEC)

One of the effective channels in disseminating IEC is through video and television platform. In 2022, the MWSS RO in partnership with University of the Philippines' Internet TV Network or TVUP produced a GAD animated video on the importance of water conservation and a documentary/profile video of MWSS RO GAD mainstreaming. These videos will serve as part of the IEC materials of the MWSS RO in promoting water conservation and GAD.

GAD Kapihan


The GAD Kapihan is one of the mechanism efforts of the MWSS RO GFPS which seeks to explore the synergies between and among different national government agencies and institutions, in order to support, embody, and achieve Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs) number 5 (Gender Equality) and 6 (Clean water and sanitation for all). This was launched in July 2022 as one of the activities during the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the MWSS RO.

Sex Disaggregated Water Data Project

The 2023 Sex Disaggregated Water Data (SDWD) Project was also formalized last December 2022. The project aims to gather and provide baseline information on the basic water statistics in the Concession Area covering Metro Manila and parts of Cavite and Rizal. The information being provided by the residential survey respondents in the areas covered by the two Concessionaires should provide gender-responsive and transformative water assessments. The Survey Instrument uses the UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) Toolkit on Sex-Disaggregated Water Data which was first published in 2015 and revised in 2019.

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